



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/023,107	12/17/2001	Francesco M. Brani	CH 000030	2433

7590 10/15/2002

U.S. Philips Corporation
580 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HIEP

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2816

DATE MAILED: 10/15/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/023,107

Applicant(s)

BRANI, FRANCESCO M.

Examiner

Hiep Nguyen

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Oath/Declaration

The declaration is objected to because non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations have been made to the oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.52(c).

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the recitation “ a display device”, “a driver circuit” in claim 6 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Correction and/or clarification is required.

Regarding claims 1 and 6, the recitation “A device for the control of phases of a charge pump **which device** (?) includes a phase generator and a charge pump that is provided with a plurality of stages it being arranged to apply signals from the charge pump to the phase generator for the adaptive adaptation of the phases of the stages of the charge pump” in claim 1 and “adaptive control” in claim 6 are indefinite because it is misdescriptive. It is unclear how the “**it**” can be connected to the charge pump for “the adaptive adaptation of the phases of the stages of the charge pump”. According to figure 1 of the present application, the phase generator (9) receives signals from the charge pump and provides the control signals (P1-P4) to the charge pump (20).

Regarding claims 1, 3, 5 and 6, the recitation “it” is indefinite because the metes and bounds of this recitation can not be determined. The recitation “the phase” in claim 5 lacks antecedent basis.

Regarding claim 6, the recitation “A display device which **includes** a driver circuit for driving “the display device” is indefinite because it is not clear how the “a display device” can including a driver circuit for driving “the display device” and how circuit “a display device” can drive itself. Regarding to the specification, page 3, elements (10), (11) are the drivers that drive the capacitor (4) and the switch (3) of the charge pump. The “driver circuit” (10) does not drive the “display device” as claimed. The specification and the drawing fail to show what is the “display device” that is driven by the “driver circuit” (10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-6, insofar as understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Liu (US Pat. 6,160,723).

Regarding claim 1, figure 3 of Liu shows a device for the control of phases (BCLK1, BCLK2) of a charge pump (316, 344 and 318, 346). The device includes a phase generator (302, 304, 306, 308) and a charge pump (316, 344 and 318, 346) that is provided with a plurality of stages. The phase generator receives signals from the charge pump and generates signals (BCLK1, BCLK2) for controlling the charge pump.

Regarding claim 2, the charge pump stage (316, 344) includes a switching unit (316) and a charge storage device (344) and that a driver, not shown, generating charging signal (CLK, CLK/) for the charging of the charge storage device (344).

Regarding claims 3 and 4, the signal supplied by the switching unit (316) is from the drain of transistor (316). The signal from the storage device (CLK) is supplied to the phase

Art Unit: 2816

generator (302, 304, 306, 308). The other pair of signals is (CLK/ and signal (CLK/) is from the drain of (318).

Regarding claim 5, figure 3 of Liu shows a driver circuit "for driving a display device" including a charge pump (316, 344 and 318, 346) and a phase generator (302, 304, 306, 308) that is arranged to receive signals from the charge pump and to supply signals (VBG1, VBG2) to control the charge pump.

Regarding claim 6, figure 3 of Liu shows ac circuit comprising a charge pump (316, 344 and 318, 346) for generating higher voltages an a phase generator (302, 304, 306, 308) generating control signals for the charge pump.

Claims 1, 5 and 6, insofar as understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C.102 (b) as being anticipated by Boerstler (US Pat. 5,870,003).

Regarding claims 1, 5 and 6, figure 2 of Young shows a device comprising a charge pump circuit (14) that supplies signals to the phase generator circuit (11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20). The phase generator generates control signals (UP, *UP, DOWN, *DOWN) for the charge pump circuit.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Hiep Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-0127. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30 A.M.to 4:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached on (703) 308-4876. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-6251.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Hiep Nguyen

09-30-02



TUAN T. LAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER